

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY'S STATEMENT ON N.C. TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT LAYOFFS OF TEMPORARY WORKERS AND PROJECT NEEDS N.C. Has \$5 Billion In Road Projects Ready To Go If Federal Stimulus Is Available

"The North Carolina Department of Transportation is having to lay off temporary workers in its field offices and take other measures, because of funding cutbacks on the federal level as well as a drop in collections from the state motor fuels tax and state sales tax on motor vehicles, the primary sources of money for the department.

"The money for road work by these temporary employees is just not here because of the cuts on the federal level and slowdown in state revenues. That is why I went to Philadelphia earlier this week to directly tell President-elect Barack Obama of the urgent needs North Carolina and other states have for important infrastructure projects and economic stimulus.

"The state Transportation Department has more than \$5 billion worth of projects ready to go today, throughout the state, if the money was available from a federal stimulus program. These are projects that will help North Carolina and work to revive our economy."

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